

and so fraught with danger, as the confiscation of lands, functionaries of that subordinate class ought to be entrusted with no discretionary powers of initiation, save those of examination and report. The office of District Attorney is generally conferred on young advocates, who, we may naturally infer, are liable to that lack of mature instruction and judgment, and to that precipitancy in action, which might lead them to abuse any great discretionary power, especially when urged on by a desire of distinction or emolument. Let them however, seek for cases where liability to confiscation may be presumed, and after ascertaining on what grounds an action may be based, report the same to higher authorities, and proceed on it only when authorized by them.

Under this view of the subject, I offer to the Senate, the accompanying amendments for the bill reported, and request that they, with this report, be referred along with it to the appropriate committee.

NAVARRO.

Referred to Judiciary committee.

A message from the House, informing the Senate that the House had concurred in the amendments of the Senate to

A bill to provide for disposing of a portion of the public buildings in the city of Austin.

A bill to raise a revenue by direct taxation; made special order for 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

SENATE CHAMBER, }
WEDNESDAY April 15, 1846. }
9 o'clock A. M.

Senate met, pursuant to adjournment—roll called and a quorum present.

Journal of the preceding day was read and adopted.

Senator Hogg, Chairman of the Judiciary committee, recommended the postponement of further action on

A bill requiring the County Courts of the several counties, to divide their respective counties into districts for municipal purposes; a bill to exclude from office, persons who have been convicted of treason &c.

And the rejection of a bill to authorize the Governor to suspend public officers in the discharge of their duties.

Bill to authorize the defendant in any case where an action is brought to try title to land, to set forth any plea which the State might do, and

A bill of amnesty and pardon.

Report adopted.

Senator Kinney introduced a bill, requiring the Surveyor of Goliad county to record certain field notes.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Bill to raise a revenue by direct taxation.

Senator Wood moved to strike out "20 cents," and insert "15."

Bill and amendments made the special order of the day for Saturday.

Amendments of the House, to a bill regulating pilots; concurred in.

Amendments of the House, to a bill organizing the Militia; concurred in.

Bill establishing a State Penitentiary; referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Bill to prevent slaves from hiring their own time; re-committed to committee on Affairs of State.

Bill requiring Chief Justices, Clerks of the District and County Courts, Sheriffs, County Treasurers and County Surveyors, to reside at the county seat; re-committed to a Select committee composed of Senators Grimes, Bagby and Navarro.

Senator Kinney introduced a bill for the organization of the counties of San Patricio and Nueces.

Rule suspended and bill referred to a Select committee composed of Senators Kinney, Wood, and Phillips.

Bill to create the county of Navarro; read 3rd time and passed.

Bill to create the county of Newton; read 1st time.

Bill to provide for the trial and punishment of crimes and misdemeanors committed by slaves and free persons of color; read 1st time.

Bill regulating appeals to the Supreme Court in criminal cases; read 1st time.

Bill incorporating the Angelina Navigation Company.

Senator Hogg presented a petition from the citizens of Nacogdoches county, protesting against the passage of the bill.

Senator Hogg moved the indefinite postponement of the bill.

Yeas and nays called:

Yeas. Senators, Bagby, Bourland, Brashear, Burleson, Grimes, Hogg, Jewett, Phillips, Robinson, Scott, and Williams—11.

Nays. Senators, Kinney, McKinney, McNeel, Navarro, Parker, and Wallace.—3.

Senator Wallace introduced a bill to extend the time within which the returns of election of Representatives to Congress, are required to be made; read 1st time.

A message was received from the House, informing the Senate of the passage of the following bills:

A bill to have the lines surveyed between the counties of Robertson and Limestone, Limestone and Leon, Limestone and Navarro.

A bill to incorporate the city of Corpus Christi.

A bill for the relief of John Karner.

A bill to provide for the registration of deeds and other instruments, executed out of the State of Texas.

And that the House, had adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That with the concurrence of the Senate, the two Houses of the Legislature will adjourn *sine die* on the 30th April."

A bill to organize Probate Courts."

Senator Phillips offered the following amendments:

"Section 17th 21st line after "creditors" insert "at the return term of said notice, the Judge shall determine whether or not a sale be necessary and if ordered." Section 19th 6th line after "months" insert "with approved security."

Which were adopted.

Yeas and nays on the final passage of the bill, stood—

Yeas: Senators, Bagby, Burleson, Hogg, McKinney, McNeel, Navarro, Parker, Phillips, Robinson, Scott, Wallace, and Williams—12.

Nays. Senators, Bourland, Brashear, Cuney, Williamson, and Wood—5.

A bill for the punishment of persons who shall write, print or publish any thing having a tendency to produce discontent among the free colored population, or insubordination among the slaves. Amendments of committee adopted.

A bill to incorporate the town of Bonham in the County of Fannin read 1st time.

Senator Scott, Chairman of Committee on Engrossed bills reported the following bills correctly engrossed.

A bill for the relief of Nathaniel Amory.

A bill to define in what manner judgments shall operate as a lien on real-estate.

A bill to prevent Justices of the Peace, Clerks of the District, County and Probate Courts, from issuing executions for costs only in civil cases.

A bill requiring the Governor to notify Chief Justices of Counties of the appointment of Notaries Public, and to have the same published in some newspaper.

A bill to extend the appropriation for minute men made in February 1842

A bill to organize the Supreme Court of the State of Texas

On motion of Senator Kinney the bill extending the appropriation for minute men, was taken up, read 3d time and passed.

A bill to restore lands sold for taxes, to the former owners; read 1st time and laid on table.

A bill to provide for the loss of duplicate and other land certificates, military warrants and land scrip; read 1st time.

A bill to provide for the registration of separate property of married women; read 1st time.

A bill requiring the county of Limestone to pay one fourth of the debt of Robertson County, "read 3d time and passed.

A bill to incorporate the La Vacca and Gaudalupe company; read 2d time and referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

A bill to provide for the liquidation and adjustment of the Public debt laid on the table.

A bill for the punishment of crimes and misdemeanors; referred to Judiciary committee.

A bill to protect religious meetings; passed to 3d reading.

"A bill to legalize the official acts of Chief and Associate Justices, while sitting as a board of Land Commissioners," referred to Judiciary committee.

A bill prescribing further duties to the County Courts; laid on the table.

A bill to settle conflicting rights, between the counties of Victoria, De Witt, Jackson, La Vacca, Refugio and Calhoun; passed to 3d reading.

A bill to provide for revising, digesting, and arranging, the laws civil and criminal—referred to Judiciary committee.

A Bill to declare what officers shall give certificates of elec-

tion in Senatorial elections in Districts composed of more than one county; read 1st time.

Joint resolution instructing our Senators and Representatives in the United States Congress to procure the passage of a bill for the relief of mail contractors; read 1st time.

A bill legalizing the several seals heretofore used by the Commissioner of the General Land Office; read 1st time.

Senate adjourned, until to-morrow 9 o'clock A. M.

SENATE CHAMBER, }
THURSDAY, April 16, 1846. }
9 o'clock A. M.

Senate met, pursuant to adjournment, roll called and a quorum present.

Journals of the preceding day were read and adopted.

Senator Scott, Chairman of the committee on Enrolled Bills, reported "an act for the regulation of pilots," correctly enrolled.

Senator Williamson presented the petition of Haden Edwards praying for lands, which was referred to Select committee—Senators Parker, Williams, Williamson, McKinney, and Brashear.

A message from His Excellency the Governor, transmitting a communication in writing, which was made the special order for to-morrow at 11 o'clock.

Senator Hogg, Chairman of the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred an act to legalize surveys in Bexar county, made by the Surveyor of Bastrop county; reported that a majority of the committee recommended an amendment.

Senator McKinney introduced a bill, to enable parties having unsettled business with the Republic of Texas, to settle the same. Read 1st time.

Senator Parker introduced

A joint resolution to authorize E. G. Rector to sell and transfer his donation land. Read 1st time.

Senator Scott introduced

A bill to define the residence qualifications of certain officers therein named. Read 1st time.